

C1 purine nucleoside phosphorylase, adenosine deaminase, inosine-guanosine kinase, guanosine monophosphate reductase, 6-phosphogluconate dehydrase, phosphoglucose isomerase, adenine deaminase, and xanthosine phosphorylase.

14. (Amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein expression of a gene encoding an enzyme involved in purine nucleoside biosynthesis is increased in said microorganism and said enzyme involved in purine nucleoside biosynthesis is a phosphoribosyl pyrophosphate amidotransferase or a phosphoribosyl pyrophosphate synthase.

C2 15. (Amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein control of an enzyme involved in purine nucleoside biosynthesis is deregulated in said microorganism and said enzyme involved in purine nucleoside biosynthesis is a phosphoribosyl pyrophosphate amidotransferase or a phosphoribosyl pyrophosphate synthase.

C3 22. (Amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein the control of the enzyme involved in the purine nucleoside biosynthesis is derepressed by inactivation of a purine repressor encoded by the *purR* gene from *Escherichia coli*.

C4 25. (Amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein incorporation of a purine nucleoside into said microorganism is inhibited by blockage of a reaction catalyzed by nucleoside permease.

Please add the following new claim:

C5 27. (New) The method according to claim 13, wherein the enzyme is phosphoglucose isomerase.

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claims 23, 24, and 26 have been canceled.

Claims 13-15, 22, and 25 have been amended.

Claim 27 has been added.

The amendment of Claim 13 is supported by Claims 1, 9, 10, and 13 as originally filed. The amendment of Claims 14 and 15 is supported by Claims 17-21. The amendment of Claim 22 is supported by Example 4 (pages 46-54). The amendment of Claim 25 is supported by previously pending Claims 25 and 26. New Claim 27 is supported by Example 8 (pages 67-71). Further support for the currently pending claims can be found in Claims 1-12 and the specification as originally filed.

No new matter is believed to have been entered by the present amendment.

REMARKS

Claims 13-22, 25, and 27 are active in the present application.

The rejection of Claims 13-26 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, is obviated by amendment.

In making this ground of rejection, the Examiner has remained focused on his perception that “the limited number of genes cited in the specification which may be involved in purine nucleoside biosynthesis do not provide the guidance and teachings required to practice without undue experimentation the entire scope of the claimed invention...” (paper number 16, page 2). Applicants stand fast to there reasons why this ground of rejection is improper as set forth in the Request for Reconsideration filed on December 13, 2002, and reserve the right to pursue broader claims in a subsequent continuation application. In particular, Applicants reiterate that the criteria for determining enablement according to MPEP §2164.01(b) is whether the specification describes “at least one method for making